

comment on the substance of the petition as described above.

III. Description of the Petition

The complete petition provided by CMA contains the following information:

A. Background information on EGBE, including chemical and physical properties data, synonyms, atmospheric residence time, solubility, information on atmospheric transformations as well as production and usage information.

B. A hazard identification and dose-response assessment to determine whether exposure to EGBE is capable of causing adverse health effects in humans. Further, CMA provided supplemental materials addressing the results of the National Toxicology Program mouse and rat cancer bioassays of EGBE.

C. An inventory of the releases of EGBE to the atmosphere. The inventory was developed by examining Federal, State, and local data sources. In addition, the inventory development included direct contact with industrial and trade associations and review of other chemical databases.

D. "Tiered" air dispersion modeling that provides estimates of the ambient concentration of EGBE for comparison with inhalation health criteria. Tiered modeling involves the use of successive modeling techniques to move from conservative "worst case" estimates of the ambient concentrations of a substance emitted from a source toward more "realistic" site-specific estimates of the ambient concentrations.

E. An evaluation of the ambient measured concentrations of EGBE and estimates of typical urban ambient levels.

F. An evaluation of the environmental fate and transport of EGBE to surface waters.

G. A risk characterization study presenting an assessment of potential air inhalation exposures and surface water ingestion exposures to humans. Further, the petition included an assessment of the quality of the study data and uncertainty associated with the analysis.

H. An ecological risk assessment to determine if adverse environmental effects may occur as a result of predicted ambient air quality levels and deposition to soil and water resulting from air releases of EGBE.

The petition describes EGBE as the largest volume glycol ether used in the U.S. It estimates that the 1995 total U.S. consumption of EGBE was between 285 and 310 million pounds. The vast majority of EGBE is produced at five plants located in Michigan, Texas, and Louisiana. Approximately 90 percent of

the EGBE consumed in the U.S. was used as a solvent in paints, coatings, industrial and household cleaners, adhesives, and inks. The remaining 10 percent was used as a chemical intermediate. As described in the petition, releases of EGBE to the environment are primarily to the atmosphere.

In support of the delisting effort, the petitioner conducted a comprehensive emission inventory examining potential air emissions sources of EGBE as well as glycol ethers. Evaluating a cross-section of the industry, the petition collected data and conducted its "tiered-type" air quality assessment on over 3,400 facilities with inventoried air emissions of EGBE.

The hazard identification and dose-response assessment in the petition presents a summary of recent health criteria studies performed by a steering group comprised of CMA and EPA scientists. The petition suggests that an inhalation reference concentration and ingestion reference dose ranging from 3 to 73 milligrams per cubic meter and 3 to 23 milligrams per kilogram per day, respectively, are appropriate health criteria for the risk and exposure assessment.

The risk assessment compares model predicted air quality data with proposed health criteria information to conclude that air releases of EGBE are not anticipated to cause adverse effects to human health. An ecological risk assessment, to determine adverse environmental effects to nonhuman receptors, further concludes that air releases of EGBE are not likely to cause nor contribute to adverse environmental effects.

Dated: July 26, 1999.

Robert Brenner,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6412-1]

Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the State of Tennessee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of tentative approval.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the State of Tennessee is revising its approved Public Water System Supervision Program. Tennessee has

adopted drinking water regulations requiring consumer confidence reports from all community water systems. EPA has determined that these revisions are no less stringent than the corresponding federal regulations. Therefore, EPA intends on approving this State program revision.

All interested parties may request a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be submitted by September 2, 1999 to the Regional Administrator at the address shown below. Frivolous or insubstantial requests for a hearing may be denied by the Regional Administrator. However, if a substantial request for a public hearing is made by September 2, 1999, a public hearing will be held. If no timely and appropriate request for a hearing is received and the Regional Administrator does not elect to hold a hearing on his own motion, this determination shall become final and effective on September 2, 1999. Any request for a public hearing shall include the following information: (1) The name, address, and telephone number of the individual organization, or other entity requesting a hearing; (2) A brief statement of the requesting person's interest in the Regional Administrator's determination and a brief statement of the information that the requesting person intends to submit at such hearing; (3) The signature of the individual making the request, or, if the request is made on behalf of an organization or other entity, the signature of a responsible official of the organization or other entity.

ADDRESSES: All documents relating to this determination are available for inspection between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the following offices:

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Supply, 401 Church Street, 6th Floor, L&C Tower, Nashville, Tennessee 37219-5404 or at the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Drinking Water Section, 61 Forsyth Street Southwest, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan O'Lone, EPA Region 4, Drinking Water Section at the Atlanta address given above or at telephone (404) 562-9434.

Authority: (Section 1420 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (1996), and 40 CFR part 142 of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations).

A. Stanley Meiburg,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 4.

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